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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/324,271	06/02/1999	GEORG HEINRICH GROSCH	7331	1324

28484 7590 03/26/2003

BASF CORPORATION
LEGAL DEPARTMENT
1609 BIDDLE AVENUE
WYANDOTTE, MI 48192

EXAMINER

WOOD, ELIZABETH D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1755

DATE MAILED: 03/26/2003

26

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/324,271

Applicant(s)

GROSCH ET AL.

Examiner

Elizabeth D. Wood

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 February 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |

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Specification

The examiner has not checked the specification to the extent necessary to determine the presence of **all** possible minor errors (grammatical, typographical and idiomatic). Cooperation of the applicant(s) is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant(s) may become aware of in the specification, in the claims and in any future amendment(s) that applicant(s) may file.

Applicant(s) is also requested to complete the status of any copending applications referred to in the specification by their Attorney Docket Number or Application Serial Number, **if any**.

The status of the parent application(s) and/or any other application(s) cross-referenced to this application, **if any**, should be updated in a timely manner.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by EP 0,761,708 or under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by WO 99/19063.

Both EP 0,761,708 and WO 99/19063 disclose compositions comprising multimetal compounds in suspension form with at least two additional substances selected from the group consisting of water, polyether, and surface-active substances. The compositions are made in the identical manner to those of the instant examples and therefore the artisan would expect them to be identical to those being claimed herein. The intermediate product of each of the references prior to drying in the reference examples is indistinguishable from the instantly claimed suspension.

The examiner is mindful of the declaration of record. However, it does not overcome the hereinabove rejection because the compositions as claimed are identical. The applicants are not claiming a wet filter cake or the method of producing the material or a composition produced by a method that requires the steps outlined in the declaration. In fact, the declaration method appears identical to the reference methods as well with the exception of the drying step and this is not even being claimed and so does not have any weight.

Response to Amendment/Arguments

Applicants' arguments filed February 19, 2003 have been considered but they are no persuasive.

Applicants have amended the instantly claimed composition to recite that it is not an intermediate and is used directly as a catalyst. However, this limitation does not obviate the rejections of record because it is not considered to change the identity of the claimed catalyst composition. As discussed above, the reference catalysts and the instant catalyst appear to be made by exactly the same process and therefore the

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examiner cannot see why they would not be exactly the same. It is acknowledged that the references do not specifically recite certain limitations such as the content of platelet-shaped particles; however, since the processes for producing the reference catalysts and the claimed catalysts are identical, the examiner cannot see why these limitations would not be inherent, nor have applicants addressed this position.

Accordingly, even though applicants directly employ this suspension as a catalyst, if it is exactly the same as the intermediate product of the references, it is not patentable and is anticipated irrespective of claim language regarding such intended use. Additionally, applicants' comments regarding claim 1 now requiring the "complete catalyst, and not simply a multimetal cyanide compound, in suspension form" have been considered but are not convincing because the intermediate of the references also contains the additionally claimed catalyst components.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicants are reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

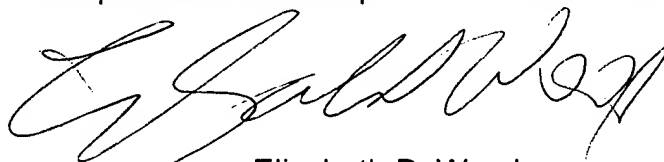
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extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Elizabeth D. Wood whose telephone number is 703-308-3802. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 5:30-2:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Bell can be reached on 703-308-3823. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9310 for regular communications and 703-872-9311 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0661.



Elizabeth D. Wood
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1755

edw
March 25, 2003